

Intermodal Groundbreaking Ceremony Set for July 25

Over 20,000 new jobs and \$15.1 billion in economic impact expected over the next 30 years

COLUMBUS - A July 25 groundbreaking ceremony for the Rickenbacker intermodal facility will celebrate the significant efforts of a broad group of public and private sector officials who share a collective vision for the Rickenbacker area as a vibrant and growing logistics center. The intermodal facility, to be operational in 2006 and used for the interchange of containers with all types of consumer and industrial products between trains and trucks, is expected to become a vital asset in Rickenbacker's logistics infrastructure and increase Central Ohio's impact on North American freight distribution. The intermodal facility and related development is expected to create over 20,000 new jobs and \$15.1 billion in economic impact over the next 30 years.

Rickenbacker's geographic location is within a one day truck drive to over half of the U.S. and Canadian population and provides companies with exceptional competitive advantages for distribution to the global marketplace. The area also features warehousing space within a Foreign-Trade Zone and significant airfreight transportation infrastructure. This new facility will further the Rickenbacker vision by providing Central Ohio with necessary additional intermodal capacity for linking trains and trucks in the distribution of freight across the United States.

The groundwork to make this project a reality is attributable to meaningful support from the Central Ohio business community and significant financial commitments from federal, state and local public officials. The cost of developing the full 300-acre facility is estimated at \$100 million, including the facility itself (\$65 million) as well as road and utility work to the site (\$35 million). Norfolk Southern will finance the majority of the project's first phase. Tremendous support and leadership from Ohio's congressional delegation could fund the second phase of construction with the upcoming federal transportation reauthorization bill. Meanwhile, the Airport Authority, State of Ohio, City of Columbus and both Franklin and Pickaway counties are anticipated to provide significant support for roadwork and utilities to the intermodal facility.

Members of the media are invited to attend this groundbreaking ceremony. Details follow:

Event Details

Date/Time: 11 a.m. on Monday, July 25, 2005

Location: Future Site of the Rickenbacker intermodal facility (map follows on page 2 of this advisory).

Participants: Members of the Central Ohio federal delegation including Congressman

Dave Hobson (R-Springfield) and Pat Tiberi (R-Columbus) and

Congresswoman Deborah Pryce (R-Upper Arlington), will participate in this event. They will be joined by local and State of Ohio elected officials

and business leaders.

-- More --

Directions

- Take 23 to Duvall Road (7 miles south of I-270 and 12 miles north of Circleville)
- Turn East on Duvall Road to Ashville Pike
- Turn North (left)
 on Ashville Pike
 for 2 miles until the
 road ends. You will
 be directed from
 this point.



For more information about this event, please contact Angie Neal, Manager of Communications for the Columbus Regional Airport Authority, at (614) 239-4081 or via email at saneal@columbusairports.com or Rudy Husband, Director Public Relations of Norfolk Southern at (610) 567-3377 or via email at rudy.husband@ns-direct.com.